

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

October 26, 2005
MAG Office, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa, Chair	Supervisor Max Wilson for Supervisor Don
Mayor Woody Thomas, Litchfield Park,	Stapley, Maricopa County
Vice Chair	Councilmember Mary Hamway for Mayor Ron
+ Councilmember Dave Waldron for Mayor	Clarke, Paradise Valley
Douglas Coleman, Apache Junction	Vice Mayor Pat Dennis for Mayor John
Vice Mayor Betty Lynch for	Keegan, Peoria
Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale	* Mayor Phil Gordon, Phoenix
* Mayor Dusty Hull, Buckeye	+ Councilmember Gary Holloway for
Mayor Edward Morgan, Carefree	Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek
Vice Mayor Dick Esser, Cave Creek	* President Joni Ramos, Salt River
Mayor Boyd Dunn, Chandler	Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
* Mayor Fred Waterman, El Mirage	Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale
President Raphael Bear, Fort McDowell	* Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise
Yavapai Nation	* Mayor Hugh Hallman, Tempe
* Mayor Wally Nichols, Fountain Hills	* Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
* Mayor Daniel Birchfield, Gila Bend	+ Mayor Ron Badowski, Wickenburg
* Governor Richard Narcia, Gila River Indian	* Mayor Bryan Hackbarth, Youngtown
Community	+ Rusty Gant, ADOT
Mayor Steven Berman, Gilbert	Joe Lane, ADOT
Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale	F. Rockne Arnett, Citizens Transportation
Mayor James M. Cavanaugh, Goodyear	Oversight Committee
Mayor Bernadette Jimenez, Guadalupe	

* Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

Attended by telephone conference call.

+ Attended by videoconference call.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Regional Council was called to order by Regional Council Chair Keno Hawker at 5:08 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chair Hawker introduced the following proxies: Councilmember Dave Waldron for Mayor Doug Coleman, Apache Junction; Vice Mayor Betty Lynch for Mayor Ron Drake, Avondale; Supervisor Max Wilson for Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County; Councilmember Mary Hamway for Mayor Ron Clarke, Paradise Valley; Vice Mayor Pat Dennis for Mayor John Keegan, Peoria; and Councilmember Gary Holloway for Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr, Queen Creek. He noted that Mayor Ron Badowski, Rusty Gant, Councilmember Waldron, and Councilmember Holloway were participating via videoconference.

Chair Hawker stated that the RPTA has provided transit tickets for those who used transit to come to the meeting and garage parking validation was available from staff. Chair Hawker noted a memorandum reflecting action taken by the Transportation Policy Committee at its meeting on October 19 was at each place.

3. Call to the Audience

Chair Hawker noted that according to MAG's public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out public comment cards. The opportunity for public comment is provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.

Chair Hawker recognized public comment from Dianne Barker, who commented on how fortunate we are to have such good weather when there have been catastrophic weather incidents elsewhere. Ms. Barker referred to a newspaper article in which Mayor Cavanaugh spoke about the dangerous traffic conditions on I-10. She said that she thought the I-10 Bypass and the South Mountain Freeway were good ideas. Ms. Barker noted that there were other options, such as mass transit. Ms. Barker disputed the reported capacity and speed that light rail will have. She said that light rail could be a fast option if it ran on its own dedicated lane along freeways. Ms. Barker commented on the Open Meeting Law that says public comment is discretionary. Ms. Barker stated that she hoped MAG had a conflict of interest policy because FNF Construction receives contracts and a representative from that company sits on the TPC. Chair Hawker thanked Ms. Barker for her comments.

Chair Hawker recognized public comment from William Crowley, who suggested that dignitaries in the audience should be recognized by the Chair. Mr. Crowley stated that public input received at committee meetings should be reported and responded to in the Early Input Opportunity Report. He stated that one of the duties of the entire CTOC body, not just the Chair, is to advise the Governor, State Transportation Board, and MAG, and he would like to know how this process works. Mr. Crowley stated that the summary transmittal for the Proposition 400 report says no public comment was received. He asked what have we been talking about all along? Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

4. Executive Director's Report

Dennis Smith reported that for the seventh consecutive year, MAG received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) award for the Comprehensive Annual Finance Report (CAFR). He expressed that this award is a tribute to MAG Fiscal Services Manager, Becky Kimbrough, and her staff.

Mr. Smith stated that the 2005 MAG Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness Annual Appreciation Luncheon will be held at the Arizona Biltmore on Friday, November 4, 2005. He said that Michelle Kennedy, the award-winning author of *Without a Net: Middle-Class and Homeless (With Kids) in America*, will give the keynote address. Mr. Smith expressed his appreciation to Jerry Bisgrove of the Stardust Foundation, who has sponsored this event for several years. Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Smith for his report. No questions for Mr. Smith from the Council were noted.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Hawker stated that public comment is provided for consent items. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the consent agenda. After hearing public comments, any member of the Council can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. He stated that agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, #5I, and #5J were on the consent agenda. Chair Hawker stated that staff was available if the Council had any questions on consent agenda items. No questions nor requests to hear an item individually were noted.

Chair Hawker recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who commented that the minutes say the number of planned covered parking spaces is 350 and should say 556. He also expressed thanks for including his comments that MAG is acting Nazi with police officers watching him. For agenda item #5B, he asked if that includes Canamex and when is the State Transportation Board going to say what the actual roadway will be. For agenda item #5C, he asked when the transit portion would be actuated. For agenda item #5E, Mr. Crowley expressed his agreement with rubberized asphalt. For agenda item #5D, Mr. Crowley asked why a representative from Valley Metro Rail was needed on the Transportation Review Committee when Dave Boggs already represents Valley Metro. For agenda item #5G, Mr. Crowley stated that the logo did not include sidewalks or a bike rack on the bus. He added that he was the head of the committee that put the bike racks on the buses back in 1989. Mr. Crowley stated that the arterials should be made smaller in the logo since they get only nine percent of the budget. He asked why not all cities have transit, since no rail nor freeways are there, either. Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Vice Chair Thomas moved to approve consent agenda items #5A, #5B, #5C, #5D, #5E, #5F, #5G, #5H, #5I, and #5J. Mayor Manross seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5A. Approval of the September 28, 2005 Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the September 28, 2005 meeting minutes.

5B. Amendment to the FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Include the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Roadway Framework Study

The Regional Council, by consent, approved an amendment to the FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to include the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Regional Framework Study for an amount of \$500,000, with approximately \$95,000 provided by MAG using contingency funds. A regional study is being requested to preserve and protect Interstate 10 in the Western Maricopa County generally west of the White Tank Mountains/Hassayampa Valley. Several agencies would participate financially in the study, including ADOT, MAG, Maricopa County, the Town of Buckeye, the City of Surprise, and the City of Goodyear. The purpose of the study is to develop a roadway framework plan for connections to the Interstate and other regional roadways, including US-60/Grand Avenue, SR-85, Bell Road, and SR-303L/Estrella Freeway. Given the regional nature of this project, MAG would serve as the lead agency. The project is preliminarily estimated to cost \$500,000. MAG's portion (approximately \$95,000) for the project would come from MAG's contingency funds. The Management Committee recommended approval of the amendment.

5C. Amendment to the FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Accept Federal Transit Administration and Federal Highway Administration Funds

The Regional Council, by consent, approved an amendment to the FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for the award of FY 2005 FTA planning funds and FY 2006 FHWA planning related funds. Each year, MAG prepares a Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget that lists anticipated revenues for the coming year. Recently the Arizona Department of Transportation provided the official amount of FY 2005 Federal Transit Administration funds and FY 2006 Federal Highway Administration Planning (PL) funds and State Planning and Research (SPR) funds. (1) The amount of FTA planning funds is \$906,619; (2) The amount of FHWA PL funds is \$4,351,576; and, (3) The amount of FHWA SPR funds is \$750,000. An amendment to the FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is needed to include these funds. The Management Committee recommended approval of the amendment.

5D. Representation by Valley Metro Rail on the MAG Transportation Review Committee

The Regional Council, by consent, approved adding a representative of Valley Metro Rail to serve on the Transportation Review Committee. On March 16, 1994, the MAG Management Committee recommended restructuring the transportation decision-making process by creating the MAG Transportation Review Committee (TRC). The TRC provides input to the Management Committee regarding the Transportation Improvement Program, including the closeout of MAG federal funds. Members of the TRC include representatives from MAG member agencies, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA). Valley Metro Rail is requesting representation on the TRC. The Valley Metro Rail Management Committee and the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of adding a representative to the TRC.

5E. Approval of the Proposed Phase 6 Rubberized Asphalt Project – Loop 202 from Van Buren Street to Alma School Road

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the proposed Phase 6 Rubberized Asphalt project, 6.5 miles on the section of Loop 202 from Van Buren Street to Alma School Road for an estimated \$9.5 million. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has requested that a portion of the rubberized asphalt program be considered in order to meet the Spring 2006 construction schedule. The proposed Phase 6 Rubberized Asphalt project is 6.5 miles on the section of Loop 202 from Van Buren Street to Alma School Road for estimated cost of \$9.5 million. This Phase 6 project is only a portion of the projects that will be funded with \$75 million programmed in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for freeway noise mitigation. The Management Committee and the Transportation Policy Committee recommended approval of this segment.

5F. MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. In January 2004, the Regional Council approved the formation of a technical advisory committee for Transportation Safety. The first goal of the new committee was to finalize the Draft Safety Action Plan. The draft document was further improved with new input and was renamed as the MAG Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. On September 20, 2005, the Transportation Safety Committee recommended approval of the draft Plan. The Plan is closely aligned with the objectives of the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Council Transportation Safety Plan. It is anticipated that the federal transportation law (SAFETEA-LU) will provide more resources for transportation safety improvements. The Transportation Review Committee and the Management Committee recommended approval of the Plan.

5G. Unified Regional Logo for Regional Transportation Plan Projects

The Regional Council, by consent, approved the unified regional logo as presented, incorporating the main tagline "On the Move," for use as part of a regional branding strategy for Regional Transportation Plan projects. On October 3, 2005, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Partners, consisting of top level administrators for ADOT, MAG, Valley Metro and Valley Metro Rail, reached a consensus to move forward with a unified regional branding strategy, including the use of a regional logo featuring the main tagline "On the Move." The purpose of the regional branding effort is to help communicate the progress of the Regional Transportation Plan to the public. The logo was voted as the most favored of three logos brought before members of the public. The logo could be used on construction signs and other printed materials to serve as a visual reminder to voters that projects in the plan are being built as promised. The Management Committee and the Transportation Policy Committee recommended approval.

5H. Approval of Prioritized List of Proposed PM-10 Certified Street Sweeper Projects for FY 2006 CMAQ Funding

The Regional Council, by consent, approved a prioritized list of proposed PM-10 certified street sweeper projects for FY 2006 CMAQ funding and retained the prioritized list for any additional FY 2006 CMAQ funds that may become available due to year-end closeout, including any redistributed obligation

authority, or additional funding received by this region. The FY 2006 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the FY 2006-2010 MAG Transportation Improvement Program contain \$960,000 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for the purchase of PM-10 certified street sweepers. PM-10 certified street sweeper projects were solicited from member agencies in the Maricopa County PM-10 nonattainment area and 15 applications requesting \$2.48 million in federal funds were received. On October 6, 2005, the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee (AQTAC) recommended a prioritized list of proposed PM-10 certified street sweeper projects for FY 2006 CMAQ funding. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendation of the AQTAC.

5I. Update on Critical Issues with the Maricopa County Dust Control Program

Maricopa County has continued its efforts to address the enforcement of the Maricopa County Dust Control Rules. In September, the County hired several new dust control employees. In total, the County Dust Control Program has 40 positions: 30 positions are filled and 10 are vacant. On September 30, 2005, the Board of Supervisors authorized the funding for the remaining 10 vacant positions. The notice for these positions will be posted in the near future. The market study for the Air Quality Department salaries, including the Dust Control Program, will now be completed by November 30, 2005.

5J. Consultant Selection for Digital Aerial Photography

The Regional Council, by consent, approved selecting AirPhotoUSA to provide digital aerial photography not to exceed \$75,000. In May 2005, the MAG Regional Council approved the FY 2006 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and Annual Budget, which included \$75,000 for digital aerial photography for use in planning activities by both MAG and its member agencies. On September 11, 2005, MAG advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consulting firms to provide these services. Three proposals were received, a multi jurisdictional evaluation team reviewed the proposals, and it was recommended that AirPhotoUSA be selected. This imagery will be made available at no charge to all MAG member agencies. The Management Committee recommended approval of AirPhotoUSA to provide digital aerial photography not to exceed \$75,000.

8. Workforce Housing Task Force Draft Resolution

This agenda item was taken out of order.

Mr. Smith stated that in October 2004, Mr. Gregg Holmes, Chair of the Workforce Housing Task Force, provided a presentation on workforce housing to the MAG Executive Committee and requested MAG's participation in the effort. He said that the Executive Committee agreed that MAG would provide data, technical assistance and input through the MAG committee process. Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Holmes provided an update at the September 2005 Management Committee, Executive Committee, and Regional Council meetings, and presented an action plan to increase the supply of housing for the workforce in the MAG Region. Mr. Smith noted that one request was that the resolution be straightforward and generic. He said that the reasoning behind this is that one size does not fit all. Mr. Smith then explained how the resolution was developed. He said that the "Whereas" statements were developed using the issues contained in the Task Force report provided by Mr. Holmes at the September meetings. Mr. Smith

stated that the items numbered one through four on page two of the resolution were those cities could work on individually. Mr. Smith stated that the Management Committee recommended the resolution in concept, but mentioned wording changes which have been incorporated into the version included in the agenda packet. He said that revisions to the Management Committee version were shown in caps and strikeout. Mr. Smith advised that one of the issues expressed at the Management Committee was that the resolution needed to speak to private sector involvement and was not just a government issue. He noted that in the “Now Therefore” paragraph, the word “legislative” had been stricken out and “policy” inserted. Mr. Smith stated that cities, towns, and the county that are the principal agents to enforce this, would be at the table. He introduced Mr. Holmes who was present to address the Council.

Mr. Holmes stated that workforce housing needs to be a collaborative process. The Task Force worked for approximately one year to identify opportunities to improve housing affordability. Mr. Holmes stated that it is incumbent upon all of us to work together to take advantage of best practices across the country to sustain affordability of housing, whether rental or owned. Mr. Holmes stated that he thought the resolution is well crafted and lays the groundwork for dialogue. He commented that it is not a one size fits all approach. Mr. Holmes noted that Willis Martin from Pulte Homes, Jack Lunsford from Westmarc, Rebecca Flanagan from HUD, and Lattie Coor were at the meeting and their attendance was a great reflection of the support for the resolution. He said that he hoped the Regional Council would support the resolution.

Chair Hawker recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who stated that he appreciated the effort on affordable housing. He said that rentals also need to be considered. Mr. Crowley stated that developers are working the system, rather than the system working. Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Vice Mayor Lynch stated that she agreed with the resolution, but had concern about the word “affordable” in item four, page two. She stated that removing the word “affordable” or substituting “reasonable” was more consistent with discussions of the West Valley Human Services Alliance.

Mayor Manross commented that it seemed that the resolution only addressed rentals. She said that she wanted to ensure that workforce housing could be owner-occupied.

Chair Hawker commented that ownership was referred to in the “Whereas” paragraph that included the 30 percent cost-burdened families. Chair Hawker stated that he was on the Task Force; he was a skeptic and still is. He said that he thought it was a conflict in his position as a mayor and policy setter, especially with the funding scenarios, such as tax credits, internet sales and impact fees. Chair Hawker stated that this could be taking funding that could be used for other projects. He said that if a city passes a resolution, they are picking winners in the housing lottery to qualify for affordable housing. Chair Hawker stated that he keeps coming back to the premise that we should be removing barriers from increasing housing supply through all incomes. If some of the programs here are implemented, they will divert funds into a housing program. Chair Hawker stated that if there is a subdivision of four houses, with three costing \$500,000 each and one costing \$200,000, that \$200,000 home is being subsidized \$100,000 apiece by the other three. He said that what is not as direct is where 500,000 people contribute the same dollar magnitude, but it is spread across everyone at a lower amount. Chair Hawker stated that he would like the focus to be redirected at taking away barriers that governments impose, such as time

or density requirements, and not focus on helping someone pay for their home but keeping a supply of homes that are affordable. He said that he felt some of the items in the resolution would discourage development and supply from being created. Chair Hawker stated that he did not agree that the 30 percent of income paid for housing qualifies a family as cost-burdened. He stated that is a choice that some people are willing to take to have a major investment in their residence and get the tax deduction. Chair Hawker expressed that he was pleased the word “legislative” was taken out. He said that he was glad he did not have to send his staff to lobby against affordable housing, but he would do so because of the ramifications on local control and what each community wants to accomplish. Chair Hawker stated that he had questions about what is meant by fostering. He remarked that he was not trying to be negative, but this resolution did nothing for him. Chair Hawker stated that this is a good program, but the impacts, though well intended, could decrease the supply of housing and increase costs. He remarked that cities would be subsidizing some through taxation, and even though small increments, dollar-wise, the impacts will be huge. Chair Hawker commented that he would move this forward with some reluctance because he could not grasp the overall intent.

Mr. Holmes stated that the dialogue over the past eight months has been refreshing because it has kept the process honest. He stated that in the context of the resolution, the purpose is to lay the groundwork for dialogue with stakeholders so discussion of those barriers can take place. He commented on Task Force ideas. Mr. Holmes indicated that recommendations are being considered that address the barriers that Mayor Hawker mentioned and taking steps to remove them so we can have single family homes and apartments that are affordable. Mr. Holmes stated that he did not anticipate this is something anyone will be forced to do because then it would not be an encouraging environment. He said that the policies being looked at are comprehensive but should be developed in cooperation with respective cities because that is where the constructive recommendations occur. Mr. Holmes indicated that this is not a mandate by the Task Force but a cross-section of public/private sector individuals to look at barriers and how they could be removed so as not to shrink the stock but increase it and make it sustainable. Mr. Holmes commented on the 30 percent cost-burdened families. He agreed that people do make a conscious decision but we have to look at reasonable levels of income that one would want to spend on housing. Mr. Holmes stated that when looking at new funding sources, they do so with the expectation that they are new dollars with the purpose of stimulating increased production.

Mayor Thomas commented on the second “Whereas” paragraph. He asked Mr. Holmes to explain the \$350 million in lost buying power. Mr. Holmes replied that if people could spend less than 30 percent of their income on housing, that represents additional buying power they could spend on goods and services in the market. Mayor Thomas stated that education is not mentioned. He noted that the consumer credit counseling requirement is at the end of the bankruptcy process and he thought education on wise spending should be addressed upfront of the home buying process. Mr. Holmes replied that one aspect of the recommendations was home buyer counseling. He said that he spent time discussing this with members of the Task Force who are bankers. The Task Force recommends training to help buyers understand and manage money, so it will not result in bankruptcy. Mayor Thomas commented that one in four house purchases is made by investors. Mayor Thomas asked if there was a recommendation to keep this practice at bay. Mr. Holmes stated that some developers are placing restrictions that a unit must be owner-occupied. He indicated that this has discouraged some investors, but has not eliminated the practice. Mr. Holmes stated that we need ways to disincent investors so the returns are not as great as they could get in another market. Mayor Thomas stated that Section 8 assists investors to maintain.

In the real estate market, there is an ability to leverage those funds. He asked how this gets accomplished. Mr. Holmes replied that this resolution is to lay the groundwork to start discussion on policies with stakeholders. He commented that leveraging is not occurring effectively. If we can incent investors through dollars available for leveraging, he believed we can affect affordability.

Vice Mayor Dennis commented that she thought the resolution needed further clarification regarding ownership. In addition to fostering, maintaining the market is also needed. She asked what triggers that market and what prevents someone from buying an affordable housing project and selling it at a higher rate. Vice Mayor Dennis also asked if other stakeholders, such as homebuilders or the loan industry, were considering creating a resolution to make a true collaboration. Mr. Holmes replied that he did not know of specific stakeholders who might be considering a resolution. Mr. Holmes stated that from a policy perspective, cities play an important role, so collaboration with communities was the starting point. Components that are sustainable need to be established and this has begun. Mr. Holmes suggested adding “rental and ownership,” so it will be explicit. Chair Hawker noted that it seemed the preference of the body would be to reverse that to “ownership and rental.”

Mayor Dunn stated that he served on the Task Force and had a different perspective. He commented that what is challenging is the number of stakeholders. Mayor Dunn stated that each is at a different stage of development and has different inventories of housing. Some have 15 percent rental rates, some have 50 percent, so there is not going to be a one size fits all. Mayor Dunn indicated that what made him somewhat comfortable with the resolution was that it shows different ways to tackle the problem. He stated that his position in this effort has been to develop public/private partnerships. If you incent the private sector and encourage different housing stock, you have the opportunity to build quality housing stock, perhaps at a higher affordability. You can encourage the development community to build other than large-lot, single-family homes. Mayor Dunn expressed that the ownership factor is important. He commented that if item number four on page two remained with just rental property, his city council would be concerned. Mayor Dunn stated that the key in that paragraph is if people are unable to purchase a home, we should do what we can to make sure we have a policy to make sure they are more affordable until a person is ready to buy a home. He commented that cities want their police and fire personnel and teachers to buy homes in their communities. Mayor Dunn commented that we need to be committed to a diversity of housing stock in every community, because of the enormously escalating housing prices.

Mayor Berman stated that he was a believer in the free market. He commented that people get as much for their home as possible. Mayor Berman remarked that any cost the government causes is not the reason housing prices have doubled. If the quality or density is changed, he was not sure it would decrease prices, but may increase the profit margin for those selling homes. Mayor Berman stated that he thought the free market will work. Prices will go down when people will no longer pay the high prices. He stated that he did not support the resolution. Mayor Berman stated that government’s role is to do for people what they cannot do for themselves. Their role in housing is to prevent purchases based on race, religion, creed, etc. Mayor Berman stated that we need to let free economy set the housing prices.

Mr. Arnett remarked that he recognized this as a complex issue. He said that he is surprised at the number of people who approach him and say something must be done. Mr. Arnett commented that

police, teachers, nurses, etc., have to drive until they qualify. Employers have a difficult time finding employees. Workers need to have a place to live in the community in which they work. Mr. Arnett stated that people move 30 to 40 miles from family members because that is where they can find housing they can afford and that is a problem. Mr. Arnett stated that subsidies are difficult. The business community recognizes housing affordability as a concern.

Mr. Smith commented that consideration of this item could be carried over to the next meeting or revised tonight. He mentioned that the “Whereas” statements had been developed from the materials provided in September and the items numbered one through four were statements member agencies could look at internally because one size does not fit all. It was agreed to discuss possible revisions.

Mr. Smith suggested adding a new item: “Evaluation focused on taking away the barriers that government imposes that impair the development of all housing stock with the goal of increasing overall housing stock.” After discussion, it was decided to remove the words, “that government imposes.”

Chair Hawker stated that this is basically supply and demand. He said that he was looking at the supply side. Increasing the supply drives down the cost. The price side here is gathering money to subsidize price. Chair Hawker stated that he disagreed that investors be reprimanded for buying up property. They increase the supply for renters, they have profited, and will build another subdivision, thus creating more supply. Chair Hawker stated that the focus is on affordable and workforce. If all housing stocks increase, workforce housing will also increase.

Mayor Manross stated that this is not exactly the free market system, because the government regulates a lot. Mayor Manross stated that she thought it is was all right to support the resolution because it is not prescriptive. She noted that this gives the Task Force the ability to come to communities and begin dialogue. Each city may want to approach this differently. Mayor Manross commented that it was a good idea to stay out of the way of business and let them thrive. She added that she saw no harm in the resolution and saw it as a positive encouragement for dialogue to begin in earnest. Mayor Manross expressed that she did not think we should argue over ideology.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Hawker called for a motion. Mayor Manross moved to approve the workforce housing draft resolution, as revised by the Regional Council. Mayor Dunn seconded. Before a vote was taken, Vice Mayor Esser requested that the revisions to the resolution be re-read.

1. An evaluation focused on taking away the barriers that impair the development of all housing stock, with the goal of increasing the overall supply of housing.
2. An evaluation of workforce ownership and rental housing identifying the mix, cost and availability of housing to support workers.
3. An evaluation of general plan policies/development and zoning practices to increase the availability of workforce housing.
4. The need and availability of adequate transportation services to provide a means for people to travel between their place of residence and place of work.

5. A commitment to maintaining and fostering more reasonable ownership/rental housing to provide housing options for those who are unable to purchase a home.

Vice Mayor Dennis expressed her thanks to Mr. Holmes and the Task Force for the tremendous effort and hard work and bringing it to MAG.

The vote taken on the motion passed, with Chair Hawker, Vice Chair Thomas, Mayor Berman, Mayor Badowski, and Supervisor Wilson voting no.

Vice Chair Thomas, Mayor Manross, Mayor Cavanaugh, and Councilmember Holloway left the meeting.

6. FY 2006 MAG Early Phase Input Opportunity Report

Jason Stephens reported that the Early Phase of the Input Opportunity Report is one part of MAG's four-phase public involvement process which was adopted in 1994 and enhanced in 1998. He explained the Early Phase allows for early input into the planning and programming process prior to the consideration of a Draft TIP or Plan update. Mr. Stephens went on to report the FY 2006 Early Phase included an Early Phase Transportation Stakeholders Open House and Meeting, Transportation Fair, and a number of other special events held in cooperation with ADOT, Valley Metro and Valley Metro Rail.

Mr. Stephens reported that some of the input received during this phase was that the public would like bathrooms and showers at every mile along the transit system, an elevated rail should go along the canals and Buckeye Road should become the new Grand Avenue. Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Stephens for his report. No questions or comments were noted.

7. Approval of the Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP)

Eileen O'Connell gave a presentation on the Arterial Life Cycle Program, or ALCP. She expressed her thanks to member agency staff who worked very diligently on the program. Ms. O'Connell stated that the ALCP provides a listing of projects, the years of construction, the years of reimbursement, and project advancements, deferrals, or exchanges over the 20-year life cycle of the sales tax. Ms. O'Connell noted that statute requires that the costs do not exceed the budget. She stated that the ALCP represents a program that is balanced for each year. Ms. O'Connell stated that in some cases, projects are being advanced under the arterial street advancement policy, however, the regional funding for these projects remains in the phase as listed in the RTP. She noted that in the development of the ALCP, there were requests from jurisdictions to receive reimbursements in larger sums in a single year rather than reimbursements spread out over two to five years and that the reimbursement be made at the beginning of a five-year phase. Ms. O'Connell advised that given cash flow constraints, it is not possible to meet these requests at this time. She added that MAG staff and the jurisdictions will continue to refine the ALCP as revenue projections are revised and better cash flow projections are developed. Chair Hawker thanked Ms. O'Connell for her report.

Chair Hawker recognized public comment from Mr. Crowley, who said that some communities are not even on the map of arterials. He stated that MAG needs to deal with Canamex. Mr. Crowley stated that

he had a problem with equity on ALCP projects because it seemed that the majority of street projects were in the East Valley. He commented that he wished the TIP had been put together better. Are we being a COG, working as a cog in a wheel, and making sure development into other counties is coordinated? Mr. Crowley asked where the bike and pedestrian parts were. He urged using paint as a weapon for the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians. Mr. Crowley stated that it would be nice to have transit out to Happy Valley Road. Chair Hawker thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Vice Chair Thomas rejoined the meeting via teleconference. Vice Mayor Dennis moved to approve the Arterial Street Life Cycle Program (ALCP) with the understanding that in the future MAG staff will work closely to coordinate cash flow with individual projects. Mr. Arnett seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Vice Chair Thomas left the meeting following the vote.

9. Domestic Violence Awareness Month Activities

Amy St. Peter stated that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which has given the Domestic Violence Council the opportunity to reach out to the community. She noted that MAG kicked off the month with a very successful press conference. Ms. St. Peter stated the Council marked its fifth year anniversary and to ensure that the Council was doing all that it could do and was still in step with the community, the Council and MAG staff conducted seven focus groups with 40 domestic violence survivors over the summer. She remarked that a public opinion survey of 600 households was conducted on the issue of domestic violence. The survey found that 72 percent of respondents consider domestic violence to be a major problem in Maricopa County and 40 percent say they or someone they know have been the victim of domestic violence. The information received from the focus groups will inform the direction of the Council for 2006, as well as provide background for the domestic violence chapter of the 2006 Regional Human Services Plan.

Ms. St. Peter referred to the maps included in the agenda packet that showed the general vicinity of nine domestic violence shelters in relation to existing bus routes. She said that coordinating public transit and employment centers with domestic violence shelters is an important factor to aiding victims. Ms. St. Peter stated that in this area where the cities and towns are close together, it is entirely possible for a victim of domestic violence to live in one city, work in another city, the perpetrator lives somewhere else and yet if the response is not consistent then the victims find it difficult to get meaningful assistance. Ms. St. Peter said that the Domestic Violence Council will be developing an economic case statement that will attempt to show the costs incurred by municipalities in responding to emergency domestic violence cases. Chair Hawker thanked Ms. St. Peter for her report. No questions from the Council were noted.

10. Status Report on 2005 Census Survey

Heidi Pahl updated members on the 2005 Census Survey. With the full count of population in group quarters and outdoor locations complete and the mail questionnaire returns nearing completion, census enumerators are focusing on follow-up activities. Ms. Pahl stated that the Census Bureau began telephone followup October 6 and will continue to November 6. Personal visit follow-up began in September and should be completed by the beginning of December 2005. Survey results will be received in spring 2006.

Ms. Pahl stated that the Census Bureau estimated the cost of the Survey using the assumptions that 50 percent of the surveys would be returned by mail; 25 percent of the surveys would be completed by telephone interview; and the remaining 25 percent of the surveys would be completed by personal visits. Ms. Pahl noted that personal visits are the most costly way to collect information. Ms. Pahl advised that there were a number of questionnaires that were returned due a residence being vacant, a bad address or no mail receptacle. She explained that the Census Bureau calls these addresses “undeliverable as addressed,” or UAA. Ms. Pahl stated that the Census Bureau estimated that about one-third of the UAAs were vacant residences, for which they will not be conducting followups. She added that they will visit a sub-sample of the bad address and no mail receptacle UAAs with the households who did not respond via mail or telephone.

Ms. Pahl advised that although the revised estimate shows fewer questionnaires being completed via telephone and more being completed via personal visit, the Census Bureau is confident they will stay within the budgeted amount. The Census Bureau has estimated that they will be able to do more phone interviews and stay within the budget. Ms. Pahl then spoke about the advertising and public outreach strategy, including news coverage on television, radio, and in the newspaper. She noted that much of this effort has been completed by the City of Phoenix in conjunction with the Census Survey Oversight Group. Ms. Pahl stated that a press conference was held September 16 at MAG with the Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, Charles Kincannon. She expressed appreciation to the elected officials that attended, Litchfield Park Mayor Woody Thomas, El Mirage Mayor Fred Waterman, Goodyear Mayor James Cavanaugh, Chandler Vice Mayor Phillip Westbrook, Mesa Vice Mayor Claudia Walters and Tempe Vice Mayor Mark Mitchell.

Ms. Pahl stated that member agencies used the weekly progress reports to target low return rate areas by placing door hangers, brochures, etc., in those areas. She added that member agencies are continuing their promotion of the 2005 Census Survey, including neighborhood events. The City of Phoenix created two additional public service announcements that were distributed to all Channel 11 studios in Maricopa County. There is also a weekly spot on Radio Campesina every Monday afternoon for 10 minutes, and any city can participate. Chair Hawker thanked Ms. Pahl for her report and asked members if they had questions.

Mayor Scruggs asked if UAAs reduced the sample for that community and how UAAs affected the results for that community. Ms. Pahl replied that every community in every census has had UAAs. She advised that followups will be conducted on the UAAs of bad addresses or no mail receptacles. Mayor Scruggs asked if the UAA rate tracked equally across the region. Ms. Pahl replied that they did.

Mr. Smith commented that a Census Bureau representative videoconferenced to the Management Committee because there was concern at that time about the cost. He said that costs are approximately \$7.7 million in the contract. In addition, the City of Phoenix identified \$200,000 for regional advertising and there are also local office costs. Mr. Smith noted that at the Management Committee meeting, Frank Fairbanks indicated that the goal should be getting a quality count rather than cutting costs and not achieving that goal.

11. Comments from the Council

An opportunity was provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action. No comments from the Council were noted.

There being no further business, the Regional Council meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Chair

Secretary